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December 31, 2001

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice; 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Now that this regrettable suit against Microsoft has been settled, I am hoping that the public comment portion will indeed sustain the wisdom of the settlement. I do not believe that any further federal action would do anything more than to further fragment our nation's business community and further erode any economic progress now under way.

There are times where it is a good thing to have our government possess the power to radically alter a large, monopolistic company so that it becomes more responsive to the American consumer. But this case against Microsoft was not one of those times. Microsoft has been extremely responsive to customers, and that is exactly why it has been successful. Microsoft is not an ossified giant. While Microsoft may well have exhibited tendencies toward safeguarding its technology, this is and of itself did not, in my opinion, approach the level of federal intervention.

With so many other more important issues facing our country today, this sort of thing ought to be the last on our growing list of priorities.

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